

National Aeronautics and  
Space Administration

**Lyndon B. Johnson Space Center**  
2101 NASA Parkway  
Houston, Texas 77058-3696



September 7, 2006

Reply to Attn of: AL-06-126

TO: Distribution

FROM: AL/Assistant Chief Counsel for General Legal Matters

SUBJECT: Widely Attended Gathering Determination Regarding Attendance of the Commissioning Committee Reception for the USS Texas

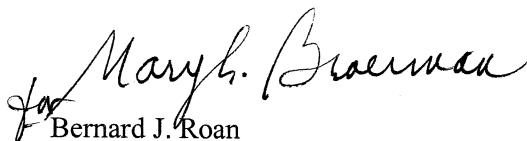
On September 8, 2006, the Commissioning Committee for the USS Texas (SSN 775) is having a reception from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The event will take place at the Moody Gardens Hotel in Galveston, Texas. The event will be a stand up reception with heavy hors d'oeuvres and cocktails. The reception will be in celebration of the USS Texas (SSN) commissioning which will take place on Saturday, September 9, 2006, at 11:00 a.m. at the Port of Galveston, Pier Ten, Galveston, Texas. Following the commissioning there will be a Post Commissioning Ceremony, also sponsored by the Commissioning Committee, where light refreshments will be provided.

The Commissioning Committee is a non-profit organization. The purpose of this event is to recognize the commissioning of the USS Texas (SSN 775). The event will be attended by area military organizations, members of industry, Washington D.C. dignitaries, members of numerous government agencies, state and local officials, members of the community, and members of the Texas Commissioning Committee. Approximately 1,000 people are expected to attend the event.

The event is of interest to NASA and serves as a forum for facilitating the widest practicable dissemination of information concerning the Agency and the U.S. civilian space programs with the local community and government, other government agencies, and Washington D.C. dignitaries. Additionally, NASA and DoD work very closely with one another, and a portion of our Astronaut Corps are military detailees from our armed services. This function will also continue to facilitate and foster relationships between the two agencies.

It is my determination that it is in the Agency's interest for NASA invitees to attend these events. Their attendance outweighs any concern that the acceptance of any benefits may, or may appear to improperly influence any NASA employee in the performance of official duties.

Accordingly, NASA invitees and their guest are authorized to attend and to accept any food, refreshments, and entertainment offered in conjunction with this event, at no cost.

  
Bernard J. Roan

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